British History

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Queen Victoria
1837-1901

Golden Era of Britain

- Her era is considered to be a golden age of all the times
- Reform act 1867, secret ballot act 1872, and third reform act 1884 was passed
- Social conditions improved
- Economy saw an upward movement
- Education reforms
- Reforms in art and literature
- Foreign policy was also a success

Chartist movement

- Lovet, Fearghus, started a movement to improve the working conditions of poor people
- Industrial revolution brought in unemployment
- Corn laws augmented inflation
- Poor laws were abolished
- Unrepresentative parliament

Demands for chartist movement

- Universal franchise
- Secret ballot
- No property condition for voting
- Salary of parliament members
- New constituencies
- Election every year

End of chartist movement

- Lovet peaceful: 1839 presented a bill before the parliament
- Feargse O conor adopted violent way and movement ended in 1848
- Violent ways to achieve end
- Government acted proactively
- Repeal of corn laws
- Lack of ideal leadership and political strength
- 1872, secret ballot accepted
- Property condition was waved off in 1885
- Demand of pay was also met 1911
- Demand for universal franchise 1918
- Corn laws were expunged
- Different laws were also passed

Corn laws

- The Corn Laws were tariffs and restrictions put in place from 1815-1846 in the United Kingdom.
- The Corn Laws caused the price of ‘corn’, which also includes barley, corn, wheat, and all other grains, to increase.
- The Laws were designed to protect English farmers from inexpensive foreign imports of grain.
- This was a direct response to the Napoleonic wars.

Corn laws

- The British blockade of continental Europe led to increased profits for their homelands farms, and the farmers wished to retain this higher rate of profit.
- Heavy duties were imposed the import of corn
- Prices increased
- 1846 they were repealed due to unemployment as a consequence of end of war
- The prices skyrocketed, grain and bread were sold

Causes of repeal of Corn laws

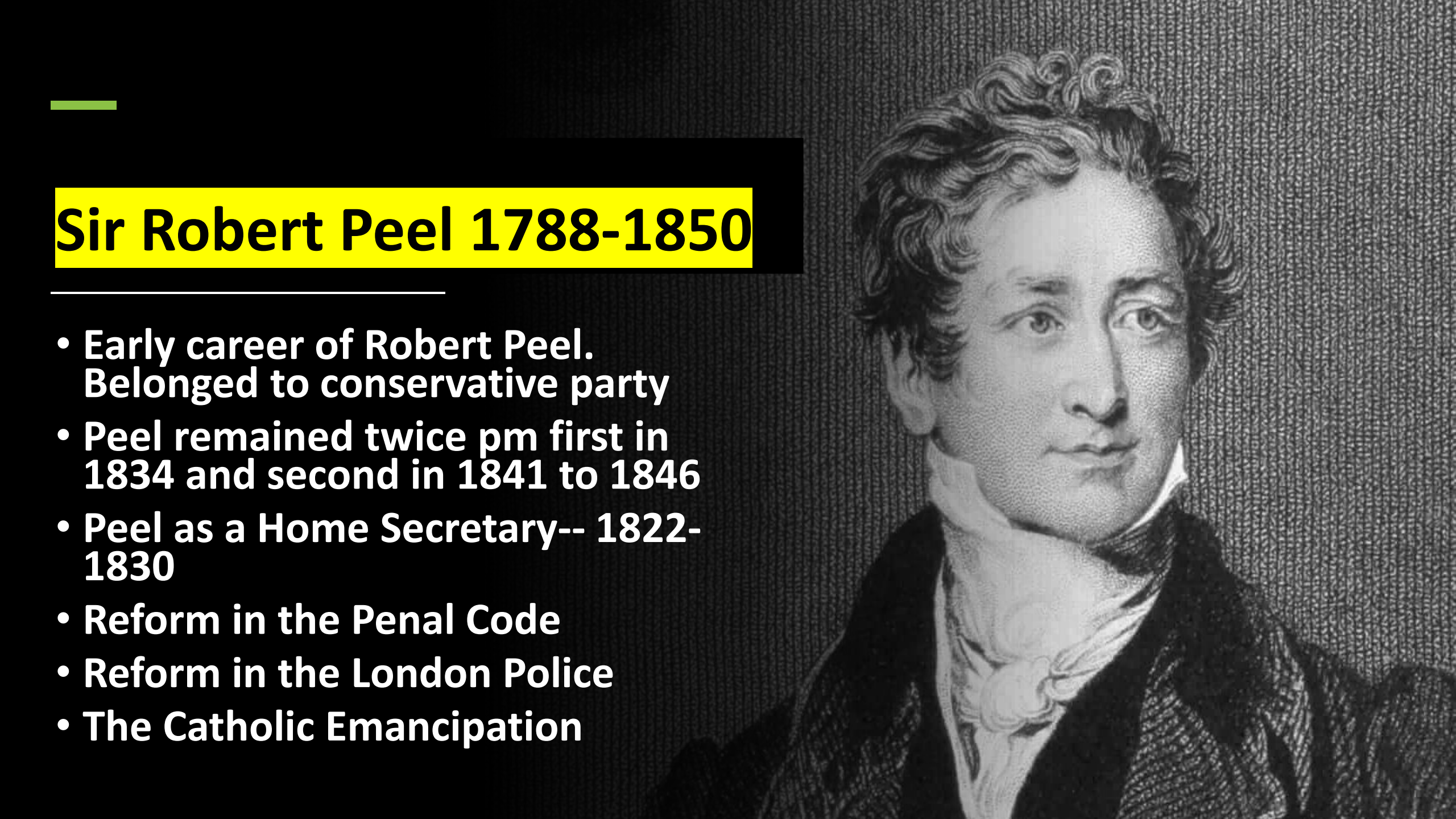
- Unemployment
- Increase in corn price
- Corn laws immensely impacted trade and industries
- Anti corn league was also established
- Failure of potato crop in Ireland in 1845

Causes of repeal of Corn laws

- Robert peel said corn law has to go
- Peel resigned from ministry due the outrage of tories
- Divided Tories
- People abhorred tories
- Chartist movement grew in influence
- Increase in trade and industry

Sir Robert Peel 1788-1850

- Early career of Robert Peel. Belonged to conservative party
- Peel remained twice pm first in 1834 and second in 1841 to 1846
- Peel as a Home Secretary-- 1822-1830
- Reform in the Penal Code
- Reform in the London Police
- The Catholic Emancipation



Peel as a Prime Minister.

- **Financial reforms.**

1. **Free trade**
2. **Income Tax – 7 SHELLING on an income 150**
3. **Bank Charter Act, 1844 A.D**

- **Social reforms**

1. **The Mine Act, 1842 A.D**
2. **The Factory Act, 1844 A.D**
3. **Repeal of the Corn Laws, 1846 A.D**
4. **Peel's Irish-policy. Daniel o' connel**

Character and estimate of Peel

Peel was the most liberal among the Conservatives

1. Reforms in the Penal Code
2. Reform in the London Police
3. Support of the Reform Act of 1832 A.D
4. Reform in the condition of the mine workers
5. Reform in the condition of the factory workers
6. Repeal of the Corn Laws, 1846 A.D
7. Catholic emancipation
8. Support of the free trade policy
9. Opposition of imperialism and wars.

- **Not orthodox or conservative**
- **Above party politics**
- **Differing policies of liberals and conservatives**

Peel was the most conservative of the Liberals

1. **Against Catholic emancipation**
2. **Against the Parliamentary Reform Acts**
3. **Support of the Corn Laws.**

Lord Palmerston 1784-1865

Palmerston as the Foreign Minister

- Independence of Belgium, 1830-31 A.D
- Belgium was a part of Holland
- Palmerston pressurized France and Spain to not invade, thereby making sure that Belgium get independence
- Finally, 1839 Holland accorded independence to Belgium

Palmerston as the Foreign Minister

- Problem of Portugal
- Problem of Spain
- War with Mehmat Ali

- Jhon IV of Portugal had a colony of Brazil
- Pedro his son was constitutional ruler
- Maria to be his heir
- Miguel his younger brother the throne
- Palmerston supported maria

- King Ferdinand of Spain died in 1833
- Isabella three yesrs had to accede thr throne
- Dan carols his uncle revolted
- Palmerston recognized Isabella's right and supported her

- Mehmat ali was viceroy of Egypt
- He attacked on turkey by revolting against the sultan
- Turkey sought help of Russia and suppressed the revolt
- 1839 , sultan attacked on turkey and got defeated
- Palmerston supported turkey and concluded a treaty and London in 1841

Palmerston as the Foreign Minister

- Relations with France
- War with China
- Problem of Hungary
- Unification of Italy

- Issue of Spain, Belgium and turkey: relationship stained
- Palmerston recognized revolution in France in 1852
- Opium war with China in 1840
- 1856 another with China because they violated treaty of machining

Encouraged hungry to revolt against Austria

Palmerston as a Prime Minister

- Twice 1855-58, 1859-65
- Initially tory then Whig
- The Eastern Question
- The Indian Mutiny of 1857 A.D
- American Civil War, 1861-65 A.D.
- The Polish rebellion, 1863 A.D.

Palmerston was conservative or reactionary at home

- Opponent of parliamentary reforms.
- No exemption of duty on imported paper
- Opponent of political independence
- Indifference to Ireland.

Palmerston was liberal abroad

- Independence of Belgium, 1830-31 A.D
- End of despotic rule in Spain and Portugal
- Unification of Italy
- The Polish rebellion.

Benjamin Disraeli

Home Policy of Benjamin Disraeli

- Young England
- Three times prime minister 1868,74, 8-
- New Toryism of Benjamin Disraeli

The constitution, the empire, and social reforms

Home Policy of Benjamin Disraeli

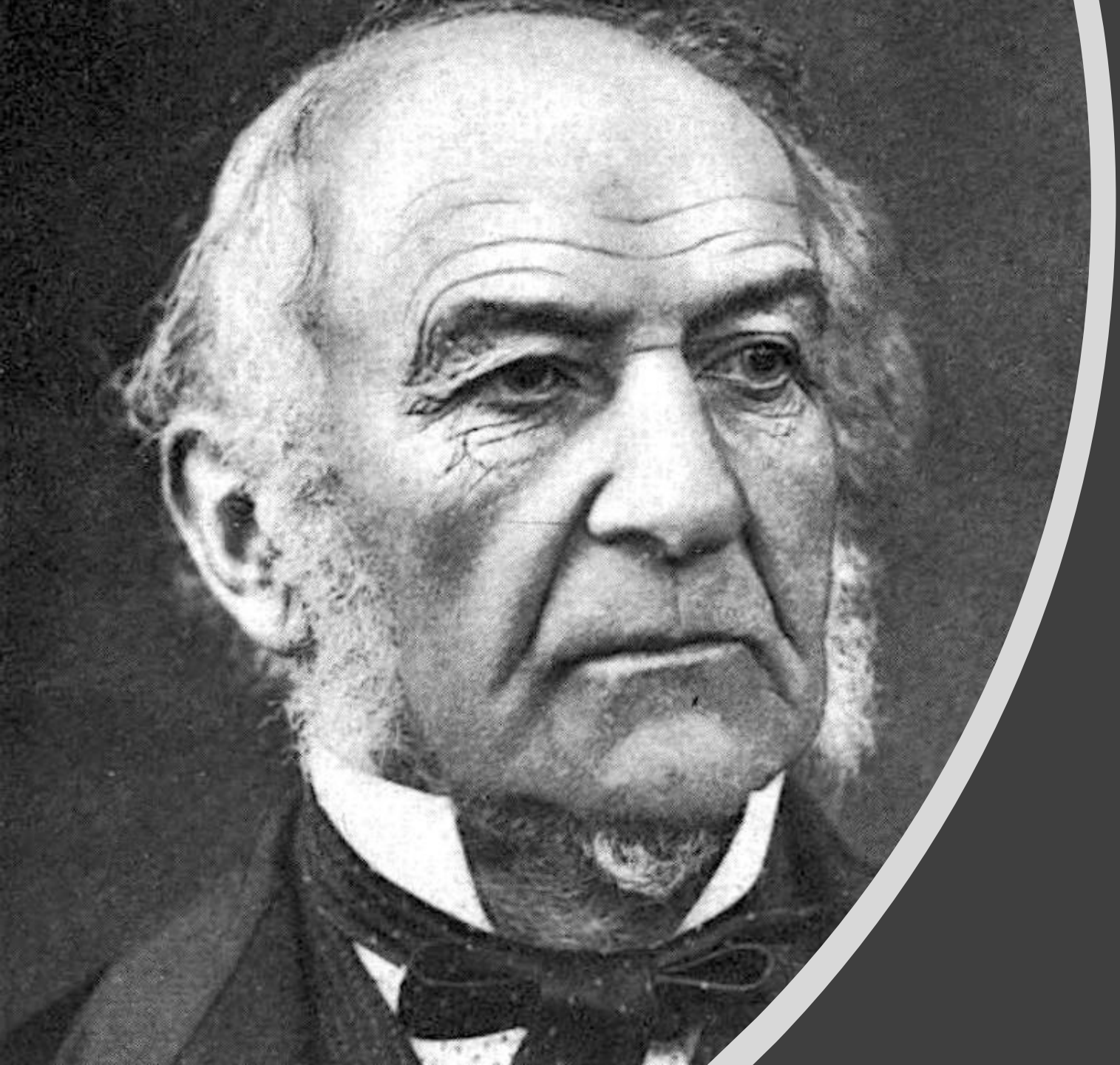
- Second Reform Act, 1867 A.D
- Artisan's Dwelling Act, 1875 A.D
- Public Health act, 1875 A.D
- The Employees and Workmen Act, 1876 A.D : allowed people to form trade unions
- Laborers were allowed to protest peacefully
- The Merchant Shipping Act, 1876 A.D.

New Toryism of Benjamin Disraeli

- The Enclosures of Common Land's Act, 1876 A.D
- Agricultural Holding act, 1878. A.D
- Factory and Workshop Act, 1878 A.D
- Licensing Act, 1874 A.D
- Friendly Societies Act, 1875 A.D
- Lease and Sales of Settled Estate Act, 1875 A.D
- Universities Act, 1878 A.D
- Contagious Diseases of Animals Act, 1878 A.D
- Public Worship Regulation Act
- Charity Commission Act

Imperialist and Foreign Policy of Disraeli

- Assumption of the title of the Empress of India by Victoria
- Bought shares in Suez Canal
- The Second Afghan War, 1878-80 A.D
- Disraeli and the Eastern Question
- Checking the aggressive policy of Germany.



Gladstone

Home Policy of Gladstone

- 1809 he was born
- 1832 he became a member of parliament
- Remained PM from 1869-74,1880-85, 1886, 1892, 94
- Died on may 19, 1898

Home Policy of Gladstone

- **Parliamentary Reforms.**

1. Efforts for the passage of the Second Reform Act 1866
2. The Secret Ballot Act, 1872 A.D
3. The Third Reform Act, 1884 A.D: gave voting rights to rulers
4. Redistribution of Seats Act, 1885 A.D.

Educational Reforms

1. Primary Education Act, 1870 A.D.
2. University Test Act, 1871 A.D.
3. Education Act, 1880 A.D: primary education compulsory for all
4. Reform in the Secondary and College Education, 188 A.D

Palmerston was conservative or reactionary at home

Social Reforms

1. **Trade Union Act, 1871 A.D**
2. **Licensing Act of 1872 A.D**
3. **Burials Act, 1880 A.D**
4. **Employer's Liability Act, 1880 A.D: Compensation for any loss**
5. **Agriculture Holdings Act, 1883 A.D.4.**

Judicial and Administrative Reforms

1. **Government Services Act, 1870 A.D**
2. **Judicature Act, 1873 A.D.5. : supreme court further divided into high court of justice**

Army Reforms.

1. Relieved the Commander-in-Chief
2. Shifted his office to the War Office
3. Appointment of able people to military posts.
4. Army Enlistment Act.
5. Linked Battalion System.

The Irish Problem

- Religious question.
- Economic problem.
- Political problem.
- Efforts to solve the religious problem
- Disestablishment and Disendowment Act, 1869 A.D.
- Solution of the economic problem

1. First Irish Land Act, 1870 A.D
2. Second Irish Land Act, 1881 A.D
3. Efforts made to solve the political problem
4. The First Home Rule Bill, 1886 A.D
5. The Second Home Rule Bill, 1893 A.D.

Causes of Gladstone's failure in his Irish Policy

1. Unable to work due to age factor
2. No diplomacy in politics
3. Unable to grasp the demands of times
4. Impatient due to old age
5. Strong opposition from Ulster

The Union Act of 1800 A.D.

- The Irish revolt of 1798 A.D. left deep impression on Pitt, he Younger, the then British Prime Minister.
- He concluded that the Parliamentary Union of Ireland and England Could alone solve the Irish Problem.
- He took all possible measures in this respect and eventually the British and Irish Parliaments were united by the Union Act of 1800 A.D.

Main Provisions of the Irish Act of Union, 1800 A.D

- Great Britain and Ireland after their union came to be known as the United Kingdom.
- There would be one Parliament of both the countries and Ireland was to send 32 members in the House of Lords and 100 members in the House of Commons.
- The United Church of England and Ireland was founded by the union of the Irish and the British Churches

Main Provisions of the Irish Act of Union, 1800 A.D

- Ireland got full freedom in the field of trade and commerce
- Ireland continued her own judicial and administrative system. The court laws remained unaffected
- Ireland was to contribute two-seventeenth part of the total expenditure of the United Kingdom
- Eighty nominated Boroughs of Ireland were abolished, and their owners were paid fifteen thousand pounds as compensation

Failure of the Union Act of 1800 A.D

- Against public opinion
- Dissatisfaction of the Catholics
- Dissatisfaction of the tenants
- Dissatisfaction amongst traders

Contrast between the Irish and Scottish Acts of Union.

- Unpopular union
- No element of brotherhood
- Not based on moral principles
- Non-fulfilment of promises
- Difference in the religious faith
- Union of parliaments and not of the people

Q/A?